

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Previously Presented). Natural stone panel floor, the floor panels (1) of which are laid at a distance from each other next to each other and comprise, respectively, a groove (11) which is arranged on the lateral surfaces thereof (10) and whereby, respectively, a plastic spacer (2) is arranged between adjacent floor panels (1), said spacer supporting a clamping crosspiece (20, 21) on both sides thereof, which is maintained in a clamped manner in the respective groove (11), and whereby the stone panels (1), at their upper edges, exhibit a chamfer (12), which, together with an upper joint region (24A), is flexibly sealed, characterized in that the clamping crosspieces (20, 21) present, towards the top, an essentially flat reference surface (22) with short soft plastic knobs (24B) formed by injection and only at the bottom have retaining lamellas (23) of a conical shape, and that the spacer (2) extends, in a self-sealing manner, with its upper joint region (24A) into

the regions of the chamfers (12), this part of the spacer consisting of a softer flexible material than the rest.

2 (Previously Presented). Natural stone panel floor according to claim 1, characterized in that the grooves (11) are formed in the sides of the stone panel (1) at a symmetrical height.

3 (Previously Presented). Natural stone panel floor according to claim 1, characterized in that the grooves (11) are 3 mm high and more than 6 mm deep.

4 (Currently Amended). Natural stone panel floor according to ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the clamping crosspieces (20, 21) present, towards the top, an essentially flat reference surface (22) with short soft plastic knobs (24B) formed by injection and, at the bottom, have retaining lamellas (23) of a conical shape.

5 (Original). Natural stone panel floor according to claim 4, characterized in that the joint spacer (2) extends from the reference surface (22) and to a surface of the stone, with which it is aligned.

6 (Original). Natural stone panel floor according to claim 5, characterized in that the top part of the spacer (2), located in the upper region of the joint (24A) is made of a softer flexible material than the rest of the spacer.

7 (Currently Amended). Natural stone panel floor according to claim 6, characterized in that the stone ~~panel~~ panels (1) exhibit a chamfer (12) at their upper edges which is filled-in by the spacer (2).

8 (Currently Amended). Natural stone panel (1) for the construction of a natural stone panel floor in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1.

9 (Currently Amended). Joint spacer (2) for the construction of a natural stone panel floor in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.